



Glossary of Terms (2009 Application Cycle)

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

A

AADSAS: Associated American Dental School Applied Service This service is available to all students applying to 55 dental schools that participate in the application service. AADSAS simplifies the application process by providing one standardized form, relieving students of the need to complete multiple applications. Dental schools benefit by receiving uniform information on all applicants.

ADEA: American Dental Education Association is the leading national organization for dental education. Our members include all U.S. and Canadian dental schools, advanced dental education programs, hospital dental education programs, allied dental education programs, corporations, faculty, and students.

ADA: The American Dental Association world's largest and oldest national dental association. They are the oral health authority committed to both the public and dental profession.

AADSAS Application: The predoctoral application allows applicants to apply for entrance into dental school. This application can be designated for multiple dental designations. The dental school may also request other application. That information is not affiliated with AADSAS and should be forwarded directly to the school.

AADSAS Account: All information entered by the applicant is saved under the individuals name and personal log in. Applicants that apply to dental school create an AADSAS account www.adea.org.

Academic Audit: A report that lists the applicants Biology, Chemistry and Physics courses, grades and Grade Point Average.

Academic Status: Represents the academic degree obtained. These statuses are undergraduate, graduate, post undergraduate and professional course of study.

Academic Update: AADSAS provides the opportunity for applicants to update coursework during the Academic Update period. Approximately 30 days prior to the Academic Update period, applicants will receive an email message from AADSAS, providing specific instructions on how to update coursework information.

AClient: AADSAS Client is a software that allows Admissions Officers at each dental school the ability to manage the applicant pool.

Additional Designations: An applicant can designate additional schools to receive their application. It is not considered an additional designation until after submission of your AADSAS application.

Acceptance Notification: Applicants are notified of their acceptance to an institution by an official acceptance letter from the school or their institutions letter.

Adobe Acrobat: A free document exchange program created by Adobe Systems, Inc. which allows data files created on one software platform (Windows, Macintosh, UNIX, etc.) to be displayed and printed on another, without loss of text formatting.

Admissions Officers: Individual who reviews applicant's application information to determine if they are qualified for acceptance at their dental school.

AADSAS Grade: The verified grade that corresponds with the applicant's transcript. The AADSAS grade will be different if your transcript uses a numbering system, or some other non-traditional grading system.

Advanced Placement: the placement of a high-school student in a course that offers college credit if completed successfully

AADSAS Identification Number: An identification number that is assigned to applicants once the applicant creates an account on the online AADSAS application.

Applicants: An individual who applies to dental school.

Applicant Information Brochure: A brochure filled with information pertaining to the application process and requirements.

Application Fee: Payment that applicants will forward to AADSAS to process their AADSAS dental school application.

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B

BCP (Biology, Chemistry, Physics): An acronym of Biology, Chemistry and Physics courses. These courses are used in the computation of an applicant's science GPA.

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C

Calendar of Events: AADSAS provides a calendar of activities for the application cycle. Please visit ADEA website www.adea.org.

Checklist: AADSAS Checklist provides a list of items that should be completed before e-submitting your application.

Create an Account: To initiate an account, the applicant must open an account. This is the start of the application process. To begin creating an account go to www.adea.org and click on AADSAS.

Complete Mailed: An applicant who has e-submitted their application, sent in payment, mailed all transcripts to AADSAS Verification Department and have been verified, generated into a mailing and the application has been mailed to the designated dental schools.

Courses in Progress: Courses that an applicant is in process of completing for the current term.

Courses in Planned: Courses the applicant planned to take in the future.

Course Title: The name of the course listed on the official transcript.

Complete-Not Mailed: Application that has been verified after payment and all transcripts are received. Application is scheduled to be processed in the next available mailing.

Credits: Official certification or recognition that a student has successfully completed or attempted a course of study.

Current Address: The address where an applicant currently resides and where all mail will be forwarded from AADSAS and the admissions officers.

Customer Service Representatives (CSR's): Individuals available to assist with responding to inquiries.

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D

Deadline Date: The date AADSAS would need to receive the completed AADSAS application. Each dental school has a specific deadline date in which AADSAS must have received. Be sure you are aware of the deadline dates for the schools you choose to apply.

Dental Admission Test (DAT): A dental examination that measures a student's aptitude and academic performance. Students will complete or take the test prior to applying to dental schools or during their application process. This test is given by the ADA (American Dental Association).

Dental School: An institution dedicated to the education in the field of dentistry.

Dental School Admissions Officers Portal: Dental schools have a web portal, similar to the applicant portal. This portal allows the dental school to view a complete-Mailed applicant's information.

Dentistry Experience: Any work completed within the field of dentistry.

Delivered: Refer to an applicant who has submitted their application to AADSAS after completion.

Distance Learning: Courses that are not administered in an actual class room environment.

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E

E-Submit: An applicant must electronically submit their application to AADSAS. An applicant that has completed the dental school application and paid may submit the application to begin processing.

Email: A system for sending messages from one individual to another via telecommunication links between computers or terminals.

Entering Class Cycle: The class cycle in which the applicant will be accepted if matriculated.

Essay: A written description or summary in which an applicant explains why an applicant is pursuing an education in dentistry.

Evaluator: A person whom the applicant elects to write a letter of evaluation on their behalf. This person can be either a professional or personal reference.

Exempt course: A course taken where no credits are given.

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F

FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid): The form that the applicant completes to apply for financial assistance from the federal government.

Fee Reduction Program (FRP): The ADEA-AADSAS Fee Reduction Program (FRP) was created for dental school applicants who demonstrate extreme financial need. The FRP is not a fee waiver program. All FRP applicants are required to complete an AADSAS application and pay their AADSAS application fees in full **prior** to completing an FRP application. If approved, an applicant will receive a **partial** refund of their paid AADSAS application fees.

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G

Graduate course: A student who holds the bachelor's or the first professional degree and has decided to take additional courses.

GPA (Grade Point Average): A computation of cumulative credit hours and separate grade point averages for all science courses, all biology, chemistry, and physics courses, non-science course work, and total course work.

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H

Health Professions Advisor: A person can assist in a broad range of issues about dental education and dental schools. They are also able to inform you about the academic preparation necessary to be accepted into a dental school.

Honors course: A course taken as part of an undergraduate honors program, not a course for which you may have received academic honors.

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I

International Institution: An Institution located outside U.S border and is accredited by a regional institution accrediting agency and use English as the primary language of instruction and documentation.

In-Progress: Applicant who has e-submitted the application, sent payment and begun to send their transcripts to the verification department.

L

Letter of Evaluation: A letter composed by an evaluator on behalf of an applicant. The subject of this letter can range from your academic performance to your desire to become a dentist.

Letter of Evaluation Portal: Evaluator's are able to log in an evaluation portal and upload letters on behalf of applicant's.

Letter of Evaluation Matching Form: A form that is used to accompany an applicant's letter of evaluation. The form serves as identification to the documents to locate the file.

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M

Mailing: A grouping of AADSAS applications that has been processed and mailed directly to the dental schools to which an applicant has designated.

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N

Newsletter: AADSAS sends out annual updates to admissions officers and health profession advisors.

Non-Science GPA: A cumulative GPA of all courses that resulted in a grade that are not

classified as a science course.

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Official Guide to Dental Schools: An ADEA publication that provides detailed information about AADSAS participating dental schools. The cost for an official guide is \$35.00 and can be purchased online at www.adea.org

O

Opportunities for Minority Students in United States Dental Schools (OMSUSDS): An ADEA publication designed to help meet the information needs of both minorities considering dentistry as a career and others who have an interest in a responsibility for minority student career development and recruitment. The cost for the OMSUSDS is \$10.00 and can be purchased online at www.adea.org.

Overseas Institution: An Institution located outside U.S border and is accredited by a regional institution accrediting agency and use English as the primary language of instruction and documentation.

Official Transcript: A sealed transcript from your institution. An official transcript must be stamped with the OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT seal.

Official Transcript Matching Form: AADSAS requires that all official transcripts are accompanied with a matching form. This form ensures that all transcripts are documented and verified for the correct person(s).

On Hold: Applicants who have chosen to draw their application from AADSAS. Applicants placed on hold are due to incompleteness of your application.

P

Password: A private code in which a student sets in order to activate and access the AADSAS application.

Permanent Address: Address information in where an individual can designate mail to be forwarded if in the event he/she has no current address. Sometimes individuals can use a permanent address as alternate address. In common cases, an individual will use a parent or relative's address as a permanent address.

Personal Statement: an opportunity for students to explain why they desire to pursue dental education. Essays should reflect what motivated, academically prepared the student to pursue a career in dentistry. The essay should be articulate, socially conscious, and knowledgeable about the profession.

R

Repeated course: Any course taken more than once at any institution.
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Research Experience: Any research completed in the field of dentistry. This research

could have been in a scholastic setting or with a dentist.

S

Science GPA: A cumulative grade of all science courses listed on your official transcripts.

Special Classification: Courses considered having a special classification, if they are any of the following: Not Applicable, Repeated Course, Incomplete, Distance Learning/Online Course, Honors, Study Abroad, Advance Placement/CLEP, International Baccalaureate, and Credit by Institutional/Department Exam.

Subject: The name of the course that best describes the courses content.

Supplemental Application: This is commonly known as the secondary application that is governed by the individual dental schools. The student will complete this application once the dental schools have contacted the applicant.

Status: The position of an individual in relation to their application.

Study Abroad: A program under the sponsorship of a U.S. or Canadian institution and the international coursework appears on the U.S./Canadian transcript as regular itemized credit, only list the U.S. or Canadian institution on your AADSAS application.

Supplemental Materials: Additional documentation requested from the designated dental school. This information should be sent directly to the school. All additional information requested from the school directly is not affiliated with your AADSAS application.

T

Term: The time or period through which a session may last. (i.e. Fall, spring, Summer I, Summer II, winter or Interim).

Term Type: Fall, Spring, Summer I, Summer II, Winter, or Interim term.

U

Username: A private code chosen by the user to activate and access their AADSAS application account (to be used in combination with their password).

Undelivered: Once the applicant completes an application and e-submit. The application may have errors and the application has been released so that applicant can make revisions.

V

Verification: A review process in which the Transcript Processing Department determines the accuracy of the information provided on the self reported coursework section of the application.

W

Withdrawn Courses: A course an applicant can choose and not decided not to complete course.

Work Experience: Any job related experience that was either paid or volunteered.

Website: The AADSAS website allows the applicant to apply to dental schools and check the status of the applicant's application through the applying process.